Abolition of agriculture subsidy

†2516. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to do away with the subsidy being given to agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to evolve a new formula to bring the subsidy within a limited sphere; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) No, Sir.

Food for Work Programme

2517. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food for Work scheme, being implemented by Government, has remained on papers only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the people in Orissa and other drought-affected areas are compelled to eat kernels, instead of food, and are suffering from a number of deadly diseases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Food for Work Programme has contributed significantly to employment generation specially during periods of distress caused by natural calamities. So far about 48 lakh MTs of foodgrains have been allocated to various States for the purpose resulting in generation of more than 48 crore mandays leading to creation of permanent assets. The problem of endemic poverty in Orissa is being tackled through a number of interventions, including the Long Term Action Plan for KBK districts of the State.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.